

Weekly Views

Be informed about the Indiana Department of Correction

"Individual commitment to a group effort -- that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work." ~ Vince Lombardi

Friday, June 12, 2009

Madison Correctional Facility's GRIP Unit used more than 1,200 yards of red, white, and blue material to make bunting and banners for the City of Madison's Bicentennial Celebration. The banners replicate the centennial banners from 1909.

Members of the Indiana Chapter of NABCJ and IDOC staff recently participated in the first "Partner to Better Our Community" event. The collaboration provided support to the Seyoum Family, who became proud recipients of a Habitat for Humanity House in March. The labor included finishing touches with the landscape and painting.

Putnamville Correctional Facility honored 170 education graduates during 2 ceremonies, including 53 college graduates (4 with honors), 11 MSME graduates, 88 Vocational Training graduates, 60 GED graduates, and 18 dual graduates (MSME/Vocational Training). Deputy Commissioner of Re-Entry Randy Koester was the keynote speaker.

Offenders assigned to the Pendleton Correctional Facility Auto Body Vocational Training Program recently painted and performed body work on a fire truck for the Dick Johnson Township Fire Department in rural Clay County.

Recently, the Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility received donations from Duke Energy, including 20 suitcases and 5 television sets with VHS and DVD players, as part of a drive to assist the facility with its re-entry mission.

Rockville Correctional Facility hosted its annual Hope Center picnic. Participants in the parenting program had assistance from the Culinary Art students, who prepared the food for 51 children and their mothers. The children and mothers spent the afternoon at the center eating, playing games, and enjoying spending time together.

Pendleton Correctional Facility held a graduation ceremony to honor the most recent offender graduates of the on-site Ball State University and Grace College programs.

Karen Ann Smith, MS, CADAC II, Substance Abuse Counselor III and Family Community Re-Entry Specialist for Branchville Correctional Facility, was recently featured in Cambridge Publishing's Top 101 Industry Experts book. The Top Industry Experts reveals the objectives and triumphs prominent Cambridge members have achieved to gain success.

The Indiana Blood Center Bloodmobile visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility, and staff donated 12 units of blood.

Putnamville Compost Recycling Supervisor Robert Dixon, Horticulture Supervisor Bill Lee, and one offender from each of their lines participated in a community project in Greencastle, IN. Offenders planted flowers for residents of the Memory Care Unit at the Waters Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

At Westville's quarterly staff assembly, Superintendent William Wilson recognized the daunting tasks of correctional staff during these tough economic times and thanked the WCC staff for their remarkable work and diligent efforts.

Pendleton Correctional Facility staff recently donated \$112 in connection with money raised by IDOC SERT members for the Special Olympics Torch Run.

Putnamville Correctional Facility held a ceremony for the 56 offenders graduates of the Inside Out Dads Program.

The Indiana State Prison library received a 2008 LSTA Literacy Grant from Governor Daniels. This is the 12th year in a row the library was awarded a grant. The grant will be used to purchase books, get multiple copies of books, increase the book clubs, and update the language lab for non-English speaking offenders.

The Indiana Women's Prison is hosting Kairos this weekend, with 30 offenders participating.

Pendleton Correctional Facility's "Shifting Gears" Program donated 11 reconditioned bicycles to a veteran's organization. The bikes will be used by veterans for transportation.

Director of Religious Services Dr. Stephen Hall addressed 50 PLUS graduates during a ceremony held at the Putnamville Correctional Facility.

From the Office of Edwin G. Buss, Commissioner